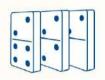


The Domino Effect of Legalizing **Physician-Assisted Suicide**



Reduce the waiting period

All states where legal

Water down definition of physician

CO, HI, WA



All states have reduced the waiting period for dispensing lethal drugs for PAS, leaving patients little time to contemplate the decision they're making.



States now allow for nurses and physician assistants to prescribe and dispense lethal drugs, embedding this practice deeper in the healthcare system.

Incentivize doctor shopping

All states where legal





Denials mean nothing - a patient can see unlimited physicians until s/he receives approval for PAS.



Patients no longer are required to meet face-to-face to discuss this sensitive issue; an impersonal phone call can do.

Ignore mental health referral guidelines

All states where legal



WA



It is a legal requirement to refer patients to psychological treatment if they exhibit a wide range of behaviors, to include depression; yet, referrals are made in less than 1% of cases.



Not only can patients receive poison by mail, but there is no mechanism to verify whether the patient received it or used it.



Discriminate against people with disabilities

All states where legal

PAS for anorexia, hernias, arthritis, and other non-terminal conditions

CA, CO, OR, HI



Every state's legal requirements for PAS automatically qualify many people with disabilities, violating the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990



Manipulation of language/routine can turn anorexia from a chronic disease into a terminal disease - for example, if you starve yourself to death and refuse to eat, doesn't that make anorexia a terminal disease?



Remove residency requirements

OR, VT

Withold life-saving treatment, offer PAS

CA. OR



In Europe, this is referred to as suicide tourism, where Europeans flock to Switzerland to access PAS. This now exists in the US.



Insurance companies have denied patients life-saving treatment, while offering PAS for a minimal copay.

Eliminate wrongful death legal liability

California amended its law to "prohibit a person whose actions are compliant with the End of Life Option Act from being prosecuted for deliberately aiding, advising, or encouraging suicide," inevitably incentivizing coercion.

Since 2009, deaths by physician-assisted suicide in America have increased every year, without exception.

